

What Can You Do to Reduce Wildfire Risk ?

1. Create defensible space

2. Keep rain gutters clear of leaves and pine needles

3. Do not use the area on or under decks for storage

4. Rake up pine needles & leaves

5. Plant fire resistant species

6. Keep grasses mowed to a maximum height of 4 inches

7. Incorporate landscape designs to break up fuels

8. Keep address clearly marked

9. Prune lower branches

10. Install class A roofing and fire resistant siding





A Message from the Fire Marshal

Defending against wildfire is **everybody's** responsibility. The work you do on your property goes beyond reducing your own risk; it also impacts your neighbors. Your efforts to mitigate your property ahead of time will improve fire fighter safety in the event of a wildfire. We recognize that mitigation work does not guarantee the survivability of a structure. However, if homeowners follow these guidelines, we can significantly reduce wildfire risk. Thank you for working together and *"Sharing the Responsibility."*

Brett Lacey, Fire Marshal
Colorado Springs Fire Department

What is the Wildland Urban Interface?

The Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) is that area where structures meet or intermix with natural fuels and topographical features. There are 35,360 addresses identified in the Colorado Springs WUI. All neighborhoods identified in this area are vulnerable to wildfire. Colorado Springs is considered a **high hazard wildland fire environment**.



Reduce Your Wildfire Risk

1. Create defensible space around your home. Colorado Springs Fire Department recommends thinning out 30 feet or to your property line, whichever comes first.
2. Keep rain gutters clear of leaves and pine needles.
3. Do not store combustibles on or under decks, including fire wood.
4. Rake up pine needles and leaves within 30 feet of any structure.
5. Select plant species with fire resistant characteristics.
6. Keep grasses mowed to a maximum height of 4 inches.
7. Incorporate landscape designs to break up fuel continuity (i.e. paths, rock walls, gravel mulch.)
8. Keep address clearly marked and visible from both directions of traffic. (Fire fighters can't help you if they can't find you.)
9. Prune lower branches. Removing ladder fuels will help keep the fire from getting into the crowns of trees. Remove dead or diseased trees and brush.
10. When making home improvements or repairs, consider wildfire safety. Install Class-A roofing and fire resistant siding.

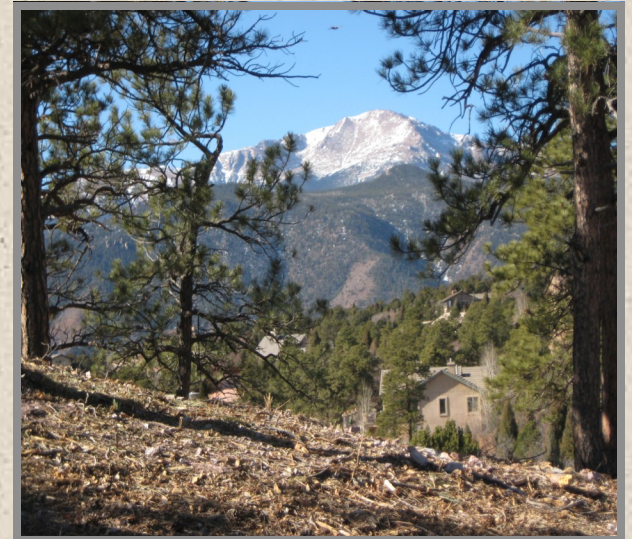
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For more information or to access your wildfire risk rating visit our website at:

<http://csfd.springsgov.com>

or contact us at: (719) 385-7342

A Homeowner's Guide to Reducing Wildfire Risk



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